



Department of Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 3 September 2008

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- Reuters reports that more than 825,000 customers in Entergy Corp.’s service area in Louisiana and Mississippi were without power Tuesday morning after Hurricane Gustav made landfall Monday morning. (See item [3](#))
- According to Agence France-Presse, Australia warned on Sunday of a “high risk” of terror attacks on domestic and international flights in and to the United States, urging citizens to be vigilant while in the country. (See item [19](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical:** ELEVATED, **Cyber:** ELEVATED
Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 2, Reuters* – (National) **Oil companies check for damage after Gustav.** Oil companies began checking their oil rigs, refineries, and pipelines for damage Tuesday morning, a day after Hurricane Gustav slammed the coast in the first big storm threat to U.S. energy supplies since 2005. Initial checks revealed only limited damage, though a huge chunk of the nation’s oil and refining capacity was expected to remain offline for at least a couple of days. One hundred percent of U.S. Gulf of Mexico’s 1.3 million barrels per day (bpd) crude output shut as of Sunday, according to the U.S. government; 95.4 percent of the Gulf’s 7.4 billion cubic feet per day natural gas output shut as of Sunday. ConocoPhillips said its Magnolia oil and gas platform sustained only minor damage. The platform had been shut for maintenance before Gustav. There was no

restart estimate. Thirteen refineries shut; ten refineries are at reduced rates. Explorer Pipeline says its entire products pipeline, Gulf Coast to Chicago, was available Monday night. El Paso said its Tennessee and Southern Natural gas pipelines offshore throughput cuts total 2.5 Bcfd. The Henry Hub natural gas trading hub shut Sunday. Enbridge stopped taking natural gas production Saturday on systems with 6.7 Bcfd capacity.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN0238435420080902?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

2. *September 2, Bloomberg* – (National) **GDF to buy FirstLight Power as part of U.S. expansion.** GDF Suez SA, the world's second-biggest utility, agreed to buy U.S. hydroelectricity producer FirstLight Power Enterprises Inc. from Energy Capital Partners, making it the third-largest supplier to businesses in the U.S. FirstLight has 15 power plants, plus one under construction, with a total generating capacity of 1,538 megawatts in Massachusetts and Connecticut, the Paris-based company said Tuesday in a statement. The purchase will increase GDF Suez's power-generating capacity in North America by 25 percent, adding to the 6,193 megawatts it already has, made up mostly of natural gas-fired power plants in the eastern U.S.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=axuHSmB8.GHE&refer=energy>

3. *September 2, Reuters* – (Louisiana; Mississippi) **Gustav Louisiana and Miss. power outages top 825,000: Entergy.** More than 825,000 customers in Entergy Corp.'s service area in Louisiana and Mississippi were without power Tuesday morning after Hurricane Gustav made landfall Monday morning near Cocodrie, Louisiana. Entergy could not say when it would restore service to customers, including several oil refineries. Reports from outside the company estimated it could be ten days before power was restored. The company said the restoration would rival the scale and difficulty of the Hurricane Katrina recovery as the transmission system was extensively damaged, with 134 lines and 78 substations out of service. The New Orleans and Baton Rouge area is essentially an island, no longer connected to the rest of the system, Entergy said in a report Monday night. Monday night, Entergy said Gustav caused the third highest number of outages in the company's 95-year history. The only larger numbers were 1.1 million during Hurricane Katrina and 800,000 during Hurricane Rita in August and September 2005. Entergy also expected the number of customers affected to grow as customers returned home and reported power outages.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN0239020020080902?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

4. *August 29, Reuters* – (National) **Enbridge and BP plan pipes to get Canada oil to Gulf.** Enbridge Inc. and BP Plc. plan to spend up to \$2 billion expanding their pipeline systems to ship growing volumes of Canadian crude oil to the U.S. Gulf Coast, they said on Friday. Enbridge, best known as operator of the main artery for Canadian oil exports, and BP, the British oil major, said they aim to develop a system to ship 250,000 barrels

of oil a day to Texas City, Texas, from Flanagan, Illinois, by 2012. The project would entail building new pipelines as well as using some already in service. With massive investments in Alberta's oil sands, production of that unconventional resource is forecast to nearly triple to 3.4 million barrels a day by 2015, and the industry is working to expand its markets.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN2943761420080829?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=10003>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *September 1, Dow Jones* – (National) **Rise in prices of explosives add to mining costs – UBS.** Prices of ammonium nitrate (AN), used in making explosives for the mining industry, and fertilizers, have risen 65 percent to just under \$550 a metric ton since the start of the year, and are likely to stay at elevated levels for the long term, UBS said in a note Monday. That makes ammonium nitrate the latest in a long line of key inputs for the mining industry, such as caustic soda or sulfuric acid, whose costs have been rising even though slowing demand growth has clipped prices of many metals and minerals, squeezing companies' margins. Used primarily for blasting, coal miners make up about 60 percent of global AN demand, followed by the quarrying and construction industry and metal mining. Costs of caustic soda, the chemical used to extract alumina from bauxite, have doubled from the start of the year to US\$870/ton, crimping earnings for the likes of U.S.-based Alcoa Inc. and joint venture partner Alumina Ltd. in Australia and Rio Tinto Ltd. Unlike sulfur and caustic soda, UBS said the rise in AN prices may persist given the rise in prices of inputs such as natural gas and increased demand for ammonia from the agricultural sector.

Source:

http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200809010350DOWJONESDJO_NLINE000065_FORTUNE5.htm

6. *September 1, ICIS News* – (Louisiana; Texas) **Gustav forces U.S. Gulf plant shutdowns.** A weakened Hurricane Gustav has prompted a number of chemical plant and refinery shutdowns in Louisiana, companies said on Monday. Dow Chemical said it shut down its Union Carbide plant in St Charles, Louisiana. Dow's capacity at the site is 1m tonnes/year. Some of Dow's plants at its Plaquemine site were also shut down in advance of the storm, said a company spokesman. Shell Chemicals shut down its Norco and Geismar plants in Louisiana in advance of the storm, the company said. Shell's Mobile, Alabama plant continued to operate, the company said. BASF shut down its plants in Geismar and in Port Arthur, Texas, a company spokesperson said. Motiva shut down its 235,000 bbl/day Convent refinery in Louisiana, the company and was running its 285,000 bbl/day Port Arthur refinery at minimum rates, the company said.

Source: <http://www.icis.com/Articles/2008/09/01/9153236/gustav-forces-us-gulf-plant-shutdowns.html>

7. *September 1, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **8 sickened by chemical exposure at plant in**

Illinois. At least eight people were sickened by exposure to a dangerous chemical that was spilled at a storage and mixing plant in East St. Louis, Illinois, authorities said. The emergency rooms of two hospitals where some of the victims sought treatment remained under quarantine Sunday. The chemical was released when a barrel was dropped at the Ro-Corp. plant. The barrel's lid popped off and a white powder came out, said a Fire Chief from Mehlville, Missouri. Emergency departments at St. Anthony's Medical Center and SSM DePaul Health Center, both in St. Louis County, Missouri, were quarantined Sunday, hospital officials said. Haz-mat crews were sent to both hospitals. Authorities were "99 percent" certain the chemical was nitroaniline, which is highly toxic. A company Web site says Ro-Corp is a packaging/repackaging facility for dry materials.

Source:

http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hCZps-x_s17ceVmhiOSkvCXIxtQD92TCVV80

8. *August 29, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Westlake Chemical to build Louisiana plant.** Westlake Chemical Corp. said Friday it will build a new chlor alkali plant in Louisiana, nearly doubling its production capacity. The new facility will be located in Westlake's vinyls manufacturing complex in Geismar, and construction is expected to cost \$250 million to \$300 million. It is expected to produce an estimated 250,000 electrochemicals units per year, giving Westlake a total capacity of 525,000 per year. Westlake plans to bring the plant online in the first half of 2011.

Source:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/apwire/2246c741bfbd203147c25677ed45ecee.htm>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

9. *September 2, Reuters* – (North Carolina) **Progress works to return N.C. Brunswick 2 reactor.** Progress Energy Inc. found the problem that shut Unit 2 at the Brunswick nuclear power station in North Carolina and is working to return it to service, a spokeswoman for the plant said Tuesday. There was a mismatch of power between the main generator and the turbine steam pressure line on Saturday which shut the unit from full power. Operators noticed the problem and were about to shut the plant manually when the plant's systems automatically shut it. The plant's systems safely shut the plant as designed, the spokeswoman said. In a report to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Saturday, the company said the unit shut due to an electro-hydraulic control system malfunction.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN0239107120080902?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

10. *September 2, Reuters* – (California) **So Cal Ed San Onofre reactor off-line unplanned.** One of two nuclear power reactors began a shutdown on Monday because of unplanned maintenance on a backup generator on Unit 3 at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station between Los Angeles and San Diego, said plant operator Southern

California Edison on Tuesday morning. The shutdown of the unit is not expected to be lengthy, said SCE, a subsidiary of Edison International. SCE said that a component of the diesel backup generator – one of two on Unit 3 – needed replacement. It was not possible to replace the component without shutting Unit 3 fully, SCE said, because emergency backup power generators are required to be available in case of loss of all other power to the reactor. The generator is not on a radioactive portion, and work on it does not pose a threat to workers or the public, SCE said.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN0236772320080902>

11. *September 1, Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana; Mississippi; Texas) **Gustav slows nuclear power.** The River Bend Nuclear Plant in Louisiana is operating at 75 percent of its capacity, largely because Entergy Corp. has not needed power from the facility after Hurricane Gustav cut off electricity to more than half of its customers in Louisiana. Waterford 3 Nuclear Plant in Louisiana, from which Entergy Louisiana also draws energy, performed a controlled shutdown Sunday night in anticipation of Gustav's touchdown Monday. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) had dispatched additional personnel to nuclear power plants in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas in anticipation of Hurricane Gustav. The NRC activated its incident response center in Arlington, Texas, at 6 p.m. Sunday. The NRC will have to approve the restart of Waterford. Additionally, the Federal Emergency Management Agency will have to determine that evacuation routes in the area are passable before restart is authorized. NRC inspectors from the agency's regional office in Texas were sent to Waterford as well as River Bend, Louisiana; Grand Gulf in Mississippi; and the South Texas Project in Texas. Nuclear plants are very robust structures designed to withstand hurricane-force winds and associated storm surges. Waterford and the other plants have watertight doors at key safety systems.

Sources:

http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2008/09/gustav_slows_nuclear_power.html
and <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2008/08-159.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

12. *September 1, PC Advisor* – (International) **Crooks planned U.S. credit card scam in UK shops.** Cyber criminals are planning a sophisticated, widescale scam that involves using cloned U.S. credit cards to target self-checkouts in United Kingdom supermarkets. According to the BBC, criminals have been plotting to clone magnetic stripes to create cards, and then use these cloned cards to loot U.S. bank accounts at British checkouts. In

online forums, the thieves discussed how to use self-service tills, in particular in Asda and Tesco, to conduct transactions without being watched by a cashier. But the supermarkets told the BBC that there was little chance the criminals would make significant gains. A security expert at software supplier RSA said cloning the magnetic stripe on the card is “one of the simplest ways to commit fraud”. Unlike the UK chip-and-pin system, U.S. credit cards require only a signature for transactions. In the planned scam, the fraudster would create cloned cards, and could therefore use any signature they wish. The Dedicated Cheque and Plastic Crime Unit said the only way to effectively stop this type of crime was for the U.S. to follow Europe in using the chip and pin system. “Ultimately, the buck stops with the U.S.,” a spokesperson said. Source: <http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk/news/index.cfm?newsid=103741>

13. *August 31, Boston Globe* – (National) **Could this chip have prevented the TJX breach?** TJX. Cos. is urging banks and other retailers to embrace a multibillion-dollar technology that uses a tiny computer chip to stop criminals from using stolen debit and credit cards. In one of the first interviews by a top TJX executive following a record security breach, the vice chairman told the Globe that the U.S. payment system should follow countries in Europe and Asia that have rolled out credit and debit cards embedded with computer chips. If the cards were in use worldwide, he said, the technology would have ruined a scheme in which thieves stole as many as 100 million account numbers from TJX since 2005, by making the numbers harder to reuse. Many other countries already have introduced the high-tech cards that slide into special readers at the checkout counter. But the technology has not caught on in the U.S. because of the high costs, and TJX says that puts the country at a greater risk for fraud. The official also proposes that card companies, banks, and retailers share the costs of upgrading to a “Chip and PIN” system. The name refers to the computer chips embedded on payment cards and the personal identification numbers required to authenticate purchases made with those cards. Such an upgrade would likely cost billions to introduce in the United States, industry specialists estimate, including around \$2 for each new credit card and up to \$500 for each of merchants’ 12 million card readers. Source: http://www.boston.com/business/technology/articles/2008/08/31/could_this_chip_have_prevented_the_tjx_breach/

14. *August 31, Associated Press* – (National) **Chinese bankers, wives found guilty in bank scam.** Two former Bank of China managers and their wives have been convicted Friday in U.S. District Court in Las Vegas of racketeering conspiracy, money laundering conspiracy and conspiracy to transport stolen money. They ran an elaborate, 13-year scheme to embezzle \$485 million from a state-owned bank and laundered the money in other countries. Prosecutors said they tried to launder more than \$3 million by making deposits at several Las Vegas casinos, which can operate like banks. The casinos were not accused of wrongdoing. They said the bankers’ wives helped launder the money, entered the U.S. illegally, and received U.S. citizenship and passports through deceit. Source: <http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5htewKWkIydPnDnVHRrGxrM9DeSRgD92SRH7OO>

Transportation Sector

15. *September 2, Bloomberg* – (Texas) **Houston Ship Channel reopened to traffic after Gustav misses.** In Texas, the Houston Ship Channel, which serves the largest U.S. petroleum port, reopened this morning, a day after it was shut to inbound traffic as Hurricane Gustav pounded the Gulf Coast. Port restrictions were lifted at 8:45 a.m. local time, the U.S. Coast Guard said today in a statement posted on its Web site. About 49 ships were waiting to enter Galveston Bay, which serves the ports of Houston, Texas City and Galveston, according to the statement. Three vessels were waiting to leave. Houston has the second-biggest U.S. port of any kind by tonnage.
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=aA43OIFr3sbQ&refer=energy>
16. *September 1, Associated Press* – (International) **Qantas review finds problems with maintenance.** Australia's aviation agency on Monday ordered Qantas Airways to improve its maintenance system following a review prompted by a series of safety problems that have plagued the airline in recent months. The Civil Aviation Safety Authority said it found deficiencies and "signs of emerging problems" in the way Qantas manages and delivers maintenance to its planes. Last week, air safety investigators confirmed that an exploding oxygen cylinder ripped a gaping hole in a Qantas jet's fuselage mid-flight in July, forcing it to make an emergency landing in the Philippines. Since that incident, the airline has experienced a series of problems, including a loss of hydraulic fuel that led to an emergency landing, landing gear failure and detached panels, all of which prompted the aviation authority's review.
Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/09/01/asia/AS-Australia-Qantas-Safety-Review.php>
17. *September 1, Advocate* – (National) **Air, bus, train services interrupted.** On Sunday, storm-canceled air service was expected to resume in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, but officials for Greyhound Lines had no estimate Monday for the return of bus transportation. Amtrak officials in Chicago said rail service from New Orleans to Memphis, Tennessee, is not expected to resume before Wednesday. An Amtrak spokesman also said rail service between New Orleans and Lake Charles may not resume before Thursday. A spokeswoman for Greyhound's Dallas headquarters said she had no estimate for the resumption of bus service for Baton Rouge, New Orleans and Lake Charles. She added that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ordered Greyhound to halt bus service from New Orleans prior to Gustav's arrival.
Source: <http://www.2theadvocate.com/news/27751699.html>
18. *September 1, Occupational Health & Safety* – (Oklahoma) **New simulators ready for FAA's controller trainees.** On Tuesday, air traffic controller trainees in Oklahoma City will become the first in the country to train using new state-of-the-art simulators. The U.S. Secretary of Transportation noted that the simulators, which are being installed at the Federal Aviation Administration's Monroney Aeronautical Center in Oklahoma

City, will give controller trainees a near-lifelike learning environment. She added that the new technology was needed to help prepare the record number of new controllers the federal government will be hiring and training in the coming years.

Source: <http://www.ohsonline.com/articles/66641/>

19. *August 31, Agence France-Presse* – (National) **Australia warns of high risk of terror attacks on U.S. flights.** Australia on Sunday warned of a “high risk” of terror attacks on domestic and international flights in and to the United States, urging citizens to be vigilant while in the country. The department urged travelers to monitor the media for information about possible new security threats. “The United States Department of Homeland Security’s Advisory System Threat Level is at Orange for all domestic and international flights, indicating a ‘high’ risk of terrorist attack,” it said.

Source: http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5hFBtsHOSSBSqDqyg9aY_2mUHYdvw

20. *August 31, Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Airport empties out in advance of storm.** About 25,500 ticketed passengers flew out of the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport on Saturday and Sunday before service was suspended Sunday at 6 p.m. in preparation for Hurricane Gustav, said a spokesman for the Transportation Security Administration. TSA brought in 275 security officers from across the country to handle the traffic and to relieve local workers who needed to prepare their homes for the storm and evacuate. Many airlines, including Delta Airlines and US Airways, added flights to their schedules this weekend to accommodate passengers who needed to change their travel plans to accommodate the city’s mandatory evacuation order. All US Airways flights were at least 90 percent capacity, some were completely fully, an airline spokesman said. In addition to moving passengers out of the city on Sunday, the airport was fighting back rumors that it was out of fuel. As part of the airport’s hurricane plan, fuelers had been allowed to evacuate Sunday and airlines were flying in with enough fuel to get back out, an airport spokeswoman said in an e-mail message. There is no timetable for the return of air service to Louis Armstrong International. Southwest Airlines has canceled all flights on Monday and Tuesday, an official said.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2008/08/airport_empties_out_in_advance_1.html

21. *August 31, St. Cloud Times* – (Minnesota) **St. Cloud airport handles security checks for convention.** There may be more airplanes landing this week in St. Cloud, Minnesota, as federal authorities try to manage security while thousands of people converge on the Twin Cities for the Republican National Convention. St. Cloud Regional Airport is one of three airports earmarked to handle security checks mandated by temporary flight restrictions. The Federal Aviation Administration has designated the Twin Cities as “national defense airspace” during the Republican convention. That means many private planes will have to stop in St. Cloud, Rochester or Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and be cleared through security before proceeding to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport or St. Paul Downtown-Holman Field. The stops are not required for scheduled commercial and cargo flights. Not all private planes will have to make the extra security stop. Planes departing from about 20 airports nationwide that are already

approved to send flights to Washington's Reagan National Airport can go directly to one of the Twin Cities airports, an FAA spokeswoman said. Similar security measures have been in place at Reagan National since shortly after the September 11 attacks. All other private flights must apply for permission to stop at a gateway airport first, she said, and they must do so at least 96 hours before the flight. Aircraft leaving the Minneapolis-St. Paul area will also undergo extra inspections, the official said. The Transportation Security Administration will beef up its work force in St. Cloud and the other gateway airports, a TSA spokeswoman said Saturday.

Source:

<http://www.sctimes.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080831/NEWS01/108300072/1009>

22. *August 31, Pioneer Press* – (Minnesota) **White substance found on bus was baby formula.** A white substance found on a Metro Transit bus in Minneapolis Sunday night was powdered baby formula, police said. The bus was stopped and evacuated when a backpack with a white substance inside was found, said a Minneapolis police sergeant. Minneapolis fire sent a hazardous materials team. It was not clear whether the formula was in its original package. Asked whether people are being extra cautious with the Republican National Convention starting Monday, the official said: "In any case, we would have probably looked at this closely. We're probably looking at things more closely."

Source: http://www.twincities.com/allheadlines/ci_10352119

23. *August 31, Reuters* – (International) **Pirates a growing threat to shipping.** Rapidly spreading lawlessness as Somalia collapses in the worst fighting for nearly two decades is fuelling a wave of piracy that increasingly threatens one of the world's most important waterways. Although shipping costs have not been affected so far, it is forcing Western navies to take action to protect shipping. Some suspect that ransom payments to pirates could be helping insurgents fight the weak interim government. Heavily-armed pirates from Somalia have hijacked at least 30 ships so far this year in the Gulf of Aden —last week seizing a record four vessels in 48 hours. A Malaysian tanker was hijacked on Friday night in the waters off the Horn of Africa country, a maritime official said yesterday. The tanker, Bunga Melati 5, was carrying 30,000 tones of petrochemicals and heading towards Singapore from Yanbu in Saudi Arabia. "All the shipping companies are taking this very seriously and are very concerned. This is an unprecedented rise in attacks," said the director of the International Maritime Bureau, a global piracy watchdog. The waters between Somalia and Yemen are a major artery used by nearly 20,000 vessels a year heading to and from the Suez Canal. The 700mn tones passing through the canal in 2007 was over 9 percent of an estimated 7.7bn tones carried by global shipping. Merchant shipping carries more than 90 percent of the world's traded goods by volume. In May, the advisory Joint War Committee of Lloyd's Market Association designated the strategic channel at high risk of "war, strikes, terrorism and related perils".

Source: http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/article.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=238668&version=1&template_id=46&parent_id=26

24. *August 29, Associated Press* – (International) **Passengers stranded by budget airline collapse.** Thousands of passengers scrambled to rearrange travel plans Friday after the sudden collapse of trans-Atlantic budget airline Zoom, amid concerns that hundreds would not get their money back. The Ottawa-based carrier suspended all flights Thursday, citing high fuel prices. Zoom was a leading trans-Atlantic budget airline, specializing in flights from regional centers such as Glasgow, Manchester and Cardiff in Britain and Ottawa and Calgary in Canada. Its routes targeted vacationers, with the winter schedule packed with flights to Canada's ski slopes, and the summer and Easter break schedules teeming with sun destinations like Florida. One of Zoom's founders said the airline had tried and failed to pay bills to airports, suppliers and aircraft creditors.
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/26458011/>
25. *August 29, Aviation News* – (National) **TSA issues GA security action items.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has published the recommended Security Action Items (SAIs) for General Aviation (GA) Aircraft Operators and Fixed Based Operators (FBOs). The SAIs, which for the most part have been pulled from the May 2004 TSA Security Guidelines for General Aviation Airports, will serve as recommended guidelines to the GA community, specifically FBOs and aircraft operators. According to TSA, adoption of these measures is voluntary. On a related matter, TSA reported that the General Aviation Vulnerability Assessment Program is expected officially begin on October 1, 2008. The 9/11 Commission legislation signed into law last year required TSA to develop a standardized threat and vulnerability assessment program for general aviation airports within one year. TSA reported that it will trial the electronic survey that will be used by airports to conduct vulnerability assessments with approximately 100 airports beginning this week before the official launch in October.
Source: http://www.aviationnews.net/?do=headline&news_ID=158784
26. *August 28, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Former Boeing worker charged with bomb threats.** Federal authorities say they found more than 100 guns at the home of a former Boeing Co. worker charged with sending bomb threats to some of the company's top executives. The man worked as a flexible machine operator in Auburn from August 1987 to August 2005, a Boeing spokeswoman said. On May 2 and 4, he sent e-mails to a Boeing server threatening to shoot up a Boeing building in Auburn or, alternatively, strap himself with explosives, a FBI Special Agent wrote in a federal complaint. The investigation into those threats - as well as similar threats sent later that month to the Shell oil refinery in Anacortes - uncovered a long history of threatening behavior by the man that had previously come to the FBI's attention.
Source: http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/local/6420ap_wa_boeing_threats.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

27. *September 2, Patriot-News* – (Pennsylvania) **Mailbox pipe bomb packed deadly force.**

A pipe bomb placed in a rural mailbox Saturday exploded with enough force to blow a 200-pound chunk of concrete across the road, according to state police at Lykens, Pennsylvania. The investigating officer said the mailbox has been smashed several times over the past few years, so the owner built a brick casing around it. He said the vandal apparently put a stick of dynamite or other explosive in the mailbox, then fled. State police and the U.S. Postal Service are investigating.

Source:

<http://www.pennlive.com/news/patriotnews/index.ssf?/base/news/122032051948100.xml&coll=1>

28. *September 1, Times Beacon Record* – (New York) **Man charged in mailbox explosion.**

Police have arrested a South Huntington man in connection with a pipe bomb that was ignited in a Dix Hills, New York, resident's mailbox. Neighbors reported hearing a loud explosion and then finding a mailbox and its contents strewn throughout the street. Arson Section detectives determined that a small pipe bomb was ignited within the mailbox. Additional information obtained by detectives lead to the arrest of the culprit, who was charged with criminal mischief in the first degree.

Source: http://www.thetimesofhuntington.com/Articles-i-2008-08-28-76031.113114_Man_charged_in_mailbox_explosion.html

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Agriculture and Food Sector

29. *September 2, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **Animal clones' offspring are in food supply.** Milk and meat from the offspring of cloned livestock are entering the U.S. food supply. In January, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said products from cloned cattle, pigs and goats – and their conventionally bred offspring – are safe to eat. The technology allows farmers to replicate animals with desirable traits, such as immunity to certain diseases or the ability to produce more milk. But not many have used it because of the expense – about \$20,000 a clone – and U.S. regulators' call for the food industry to voluntarily refrain from selling products from cloned animals. There is also resistance among consumers and advocacy groups, whether because of ethical, health, or environmental concerns. Cloned animals are more likely to have health problems at birth than traditionally bred animals, and few studies have been done that follow clones or their offspring through their full lifespan. Regulators have lifted the voluntary ban on sales of milk and meat from offspring of clones, but not from clones themselves, following the FDA's safety verdict in January. Consumers who want to avoid food from cloned animals or their offspring can buy products labeled organic. A USDA advisory panel ruled last year that clones and their offspring are not compatible with the idea of organic foods.

Source:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122031044800588585.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

30. *September 1, Associated Press* – (National) **Border Patrol also guards against foreign bugs.** U.S. Customs and Border Protection agricultural specialists work aboard ships three football fields long that are stacked with truck-sized cargo containers, searching

them for bugs, plants, or pathogens that could lay waste to native species. Invasive species can quickly become ecological and economical disasters. The emerald ash borer beetle has killed over 30 million ash trees since it was detected in North America in 2002. European gypsy moths defoliate millions of acres of forest every year from North Carolina to Wisconsin to Maine. In early August, one specialist stepped aboard a ship in Seattle and found more than 100 Asian gypsy moth egg masses, each containing up to 1,000 eggs. She ordered the ship immediately escorted out of U.S. territorial water by the Coast Guard before the eggs started hatching. After hatching, the gypsy mother caterpillars let out a silken thread to catch the wind – a mode of travel called “ballooning” that can carry them up to five miles. “Once the larvae start ballooning, we’re in trouble,” said the Customs Service’s agriculture chief for the Seattle area. He estimates if gypsy moths hatched at a Washington port, they could infest the forests of the Cascade Range – about 30 miles away – within five years. The federal government spends over \$1.3 billion every year to detect, eradicate, and control invasive species, according to the Department of the Interior.

Source: http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hw4eLR_BLIP-FwN2qHeWOeo4EAGQD92U33P01

31. *August 30, Salinas Californian* – (California) **FDA’s mobile field lab in Salinas to do research.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) brought a state-of-the-art mobile laboratory to Salinas to conduct field research. The microbiology mobile laboratory is in Salinas until September 19 to examine fresh produce for salmonella and E. coli O157:H7 contamination, said an FDA spokeswoman. The lab is designed for non-agricultural uses and has been in operation since 2005, going to places such as New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, where it was used to test water quality of shellfish growing beds “to ensure its safety for shellfish harvest,” she said in an e-mail. The lab will sit next to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s permanent research building and will provide a variety of technologies to the six-member team of scientists. The lab consists of two modified 44-foot house trailers and a modified 34-foot motorhome customized as an administrative support vehicle. The lab has been outfitted with a generator, fresh water, and waste water tanks, bathroom, kitchen, and four computer work stations for staff scientists. The lab is part of a Homeland Security directive aimed at defending agriculture and the nation’s food system from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies. The lab has customized equipment to handle various emergencies, such as chemical contamination.

Source:

<http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080830/NEWS01/808300325>

32. *August 29, KATC 3 Lafayette* – (Louisiana) **Coastal livestock evacuated.** Cattle producers along the coast are loading them up and heading out ahead of the storm. Evacuating livestock is a major undertaking but is necessary in areas vulnerable to storm surge. Farmers are not taking any chances. They are getting on their horses and loading up their cattle to move them to higher ground. During Hurricane Rita, many farmers lost a lot of their livestock; the ones who survived were under so much stress that they would not reproduce. Some farmers in Erath are working together so they can make less trips

and evacuate faster.

Source: <http://www.katc.com/Global/story.asp?S=8924139>

33. *August 29, Associated Press* – (California) **California farmers use guns, poison to protect crops.** Farmers in “America’s Salad Bowl” are turning into hunters, stalking wild pigs, rabbits, and deer, to keep E. coli and other harmful bacteria out of their fields. The pressure to safeguard crops comes from the companies that buy fresh greens. In response, some farmers are taking gun-safety classes to learn how to shoot animals that could carry the bacteria. Others are uprooting native trees and plants and erecting fences to make their land inhospitable to wildlife. A spinach grower has even poisoned ponds with copper sulfate to kill frogs that might get caught in harvesting machinery or carry salmonella on their webbed feet. The nonprofit Resource Conservation District of Monterey County, California, which works with landowners to sustain wildlife habitat, surveyed 181 leafy greens growers who manage more than 140,000 acres. The survey showed that more than 30,000 acres had been affected by trapping, poisoning, fencing, or removal of natural habitat. The survey also indicated that 32 percent of respondents were convinced by corporate food-safety auditors to remove non-crop vegetation. More than 47 percent had been asked to “remove” wildlife, and 40.7 percent of those surveyed complied. Growers, packers, and shippers adopted new food-safety standards last year for farms, including a requirement that farmers establish 30-foot buffers between their fields and grazing land for cattle, which are known carriers of E. coli. The standards acknowledged that wildlife could also carry the bacteria, but they had no requirement for buffers between wildlife habitat and fields.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/26460426/>

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Water Sector

34. *September 2, Town Talk* – (Louisiana) **Water situation critical after Gustav knocks out wells in Alexandria, Pineville.** Water has become a precious commodity in both the cities of Pineville and Alexandria in Louisiana after Hurricane Gustav on Monday knocked out water wells as it roared through Cenla as a Category One hurricane. Gustav late Monday was downgraded to a tropical storm, but it left plenty of damage in its wake in central Louisiana, knocking down power lines, toppling trees, and generating flooding. The city of Pineville is under a water boil alert after losing all ten of its water wells. “Water is at a critical level,” said a Pineville spokesman. The main elevated tank was at 70 percent prior to Gustav. Once levels drop, though, the whole supply may be lost, he said. He asked residents to conserve water during this time. The Louisiana Department of Health is working to find Pineville generators to bring its wells back on line. As of Monday night, an Alexandria spokesman said the city had 12 hours of normal water usage remaining in its tanks. The tanks were “full to the brim” prior to the storm. The Alexandria spokesman is asking all residents to begin conserving water in order to stretch out the available supply. Neither man knew when repairs could begin on the wells due to the storm. There were also reports of low water pressure in parts of areas served by Rapides Waterworks District No. 3.

Source:

<http://www.thetowntalk.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080902/NEWS01/309020005/1002>

35. *September 1, WHDH 7 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Hazardous chemical found in Hamilton water supply.** The town of Hamilton, Massachusetts, has issued a warning to residents that their water may be tainted with a potentially hazardous chemical. Hamilton drinking water tested positive for high levels of perchlorate. The director of public works in Hamilton warned pregnant women, nursing mothers, children, and people with thyroid problems should not to drink the tap water. He also said residents should discard any beverage or ice prepared with tap water in recent days. While two recent tests have determined the water is safe, the no-drink order for children and pregnant and nursing women will be lifted only after six consecutive days of clean samples. The advisory will be in effect until Wednesday and testing will continue each day. The town of Millbury was dealing with a similar problem. It was forced to shut down one of its wells after detecting unsafe amounts of the chemical. Readings of perchlorate from August 20 were five times the state limit. Their water was deemed safe Monday.
Source: <http://www3.whdh.com/news/articles/local/BO86779/>
36. *August 29, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **N.J. towns close beaches after medical waste washes ashore.** In New Jersey, medical debris continued to pose problems for the start of Labor Day weekend along some Cape May County beaches. The town of Avalon allowed swimmers back into the ocean at some of its beaches on Friday afternoon, after closing all of its beaches in the morning because six syringes were found. An additional sweep turned up nothing. Ocean City closed all its beaches for part of the day after five needles washed up, but reopened half of them by the late afternoon. Earlier in the week, nearly 200 syringes washed up in Avalon, forcing the town to close some of its beaches throughout the week. On Thursday, Ocean City banned swimming on part of its beach after six syringes were found on the sand. State officials on Friday were tracking serial numbers from the Avalon syringes, and were offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for dumping the waste. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection used a helicopter and boat to survey the coastline. “There’s no doubt in my mind that the first batch that we found was deliberately set and the batch we found today seems to be similar to what’s washing up in Ocean City and one or two other towns,” said the Avalon mayor. Environmental activists say the discovery of syringes in Avalon is one of the worst single cases in years of medical waste washing up on the shore. The problems in Avalon and Ocean City had other nearby towns nervously watching the water. In Strathmere, between Ocean City and Avalon, a beach patrol lieutenant told the Press that two syringes came ashore, but that was not enough to close the beach.
Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2008-08-29-nj-beaches-medical-waste_N.htm

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

37. *September 2, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Hospitals up and running in the area.** In Louisiana, hospitals weathered Hurricane Gustav with minimal damage, and their emergency rooms were operational Tuesday morning. Beyond a few shattered windows, none of the facilities reached this morning suffered any serious calamities, officials said. University Hospital in New Orleans has its main power supply and can take emergency care patients, a spokeswoman said. The facility has 88 patients this morning and its staff is awaiting relief from those employees who evacuated as the storm approached. Ochsner Medical Center's main campus absorbed many of the patients transferred from its West Jefferson facility and hospitals in Terrebonne Parish. The West Jefferson Medical Center, which was evacuated as it appeared Gustav would take dead aim at West Bank neighborhoods, has also opened its emergency room, the hospital's chief executive officer said. Workers are treating those few who have come in while awaiting word when the rest of the staff can return, she said.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2008/09/hospitals_up_and_running_in_th.html

38. *September 1, Associated Press* – (National) **Whistle-blowers help US recoup \$9.3 billion.** Whistle-blowers helped authorities recover at least \$9.3 billion from health care providers accused of defrauding states and the federal government, according to an analysis of Justice Department records. The department ramped up efforts in the 1990s to combat health care fraud by using private citizens with inside knowledge of wrongdoing. They now initiate more than 90 percent of the department's lawsuits focusing on health care fraud. Whistle-blowers start cases by filing a sealed complaint in federal court. The department investigates the allegation and can intervene, assuming the lead role in the lawsuit. Whistle-blowers then get between 15 percent and 25 percent of the amount recovered. Of the \$9.3 billion recovered between 1996 and 2005, whistle-blowers got more than \$1 billion, said analysts writing for the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. The analysts' findings are conservative. Information was only available for about three-quarters of the 379 cases reviewed. Second, some of the largest recoveries have taken place after the period reviewed.

Source:

http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5ihvX2KcsVV_Im_C5AmAEmiseWpcAD92U5R1G3

39. *September 1, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **“Hacker” gains access to Kansas Health Policy Authority data.** A consultant hired by the state to try and break into the computers at the Kansas Health Policy Authority had no luck using a password cracker. However, he did much better by setting up an e-mail account, impersonating a state computer technician and sending messages to 30 employees asking for their passwords. Fourteen gave them to him, no questions asked. State officials say while the Health Policy Authority does a good job training new employees on computer security, they need to do ongoing training to keep people vigilant in the future.

Source:

http://www.ktka.com/news/2008/sep/01/hacker_gains_access_kansas_health_policy_authority/

40. *August 30, Hindu* – (National) **Threat of bio-attacks has heightened.** A combination of advances in biotechnology and easy access to inputs has heightened the threat of bio-attacks, an international expert on bioterrorism said in Chennai, India, on Thursday. In an interview with *The Hindu*, the Director and Senior Fellow, Homeland Security Program, at the Washington D.C.-based Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), described the anthrax attacks in the U.S. in 2001, and the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak in the Asia Pacific region in 2003 as “two wakeup calls” for the threats posed by bio-attacks. The difficulties in tracing a bio-attack posed another problem. “Unlike nuclear or even explosive attacks, bio is unique in that whether you are a State actor, or a non-State actor, it is very hard to trace.” And, “You leave very few footprints when preparing for a bio-attack.” The technology needed for a bio-attack “has become more and more available to private citizens and small groups,” as they were getting “smaller, faster and cheaper.” In the last 20 years, the technology had evolved “as rapidly and as effectively as computers have, almost in parallel, if not more so.”

Source: <http://www.hindu.com/2008/08/30/stories/2008083056611300.htm>

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Government Facilities Sector

41. *September 2, Associated Press* – (California) **Police: Man found with weapons near UCLA campus.** A man accused of shooting at a traffic light was arrested near the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) with five loaded semiautomatic pistols and thousands of rounds of ammunition in his possession, police said. Police said the man was carrying the pistols, which were equipped with laser sights, and 400 bullets. They also found another 7,800 rounds of ammunition in his van and 3,000 more in his storage locker, police said. After his arrest, the man made anti-government statements and told police to look in his nearby suitcase for “the secret,” the release said. A Los Angeles police bomb squad found timers, paint thinner, and other suspicious items inside, as well as his manifesto.
- Source:
<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gU4sXP7jDkNZnAsABX50ga8xFczwD92UH6200>
42. *September 1, Federal Times* – (National) **Plutonium spill, laser accident prompt reviews.** In early June, a glass vial of plutonium powder broke at the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST) lab in Boulder, Colorado. More than a dozen researchers were exposed to radiation. The plutonium spill was only one of several serious accidents reported at NIST labs in the last couple years. In March, a university researcher was shot in the eye with an infrared laser while placing a slide on a microscope at the agency’s headquarters in Gaithersburg, Maryland. And in June 2006, a contract construction worker sustained near-fatal injuries when a 500-pound steel beam fell on his head while working at the Boulder campus. The incidents have revealed management flaws at the labs and prompted efforts to overhaul what is viewed as a lax safety culture at the agency. The plutonium spill has sparked no fewer than seven investigations. NIST said it is reviewing its safety programs and procedures and

studying how to prevent future accidents. No one has been disciplined as a result of the plutonium spill, pending the outcome of the investigations. A former chemical engineer at Union Carbide Corp. who now serves as staff director for the House subcommittee on technology and the environment said it took the plutonium spill to draw NIST's attention to lax training and safety procedures.

Source: <http://federaltimes.com/index.php?S=3699347>

43. *September 1, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **Woman brings 32 bombs to sheriff's office.** A Hillsboro woman walked into the Washington County Sheriff's Office this weekend with a box containing 32 seal bombs. The Records Department told deputies that a woman arrived in the after-hours lobby Saturday night and set the box on the counter of the service area. The bombs are used to scare seals from shipping docks and are classified as high explosives under federal law. She told deputies she confiscated them from her friend's 21-year-old son in Seattle earlier Saturday, and then drove them to Hillsboro to turn them in for destruction.

Source:

<http://wenatcheeworld.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080901/NEWS03/809010288>

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Emergency Services Sector

44. *September 2, Washington Daily News* – (North Carolina) **Local 911 lines back in service.** Area 911 systems were disabled for several hours Sunday afternoon, forcing local officials to switch to alternate numbers. Officials said the problem originated in the phone system and affected much of eastern North Carolina, though it was not clear Sunday evening exactly how far it had spread. The system went down sometime in the late afternoon and came back online just after 7 p.m., officials said. In Beaufort County, officials switched to a line that is normally used for administrative purposes, broadcasting the new numbers at the bottom of the screen on major local television channels, the Emergency Management coordinator said. Hyde County officials rerouted callers dialing 911 to the county sheriff's office and stationed emergency management officials at each of the county's volunteer fire departments.

Source: <http://www.wdnweb.com/articles/2008/09/01/news/news02.txt>

45. *September 2, Armed Forces Press Service* – (National) **Military ready as Gustav hits land.** With Hurricane Gustav hitting the southwestern Louisiana coast, all preparations have been made. More than 7,000 National Guardsmen from Florida to Texas have been called up for state missions and are patrolling New Orleans and other cities and towns in the region. Active-duty military personnel are standing by ready to lend a hand if needed, Federal Emergency Management Agency officials said. U.S. Northern Command is working closely with civilian and state agencies along the Gulf Coast, and will provide needed capabilities if asked. The Defense Department has 70 aircraft ready to assist state and local officials and victims of the hurricane, the Associated Press is reporting. Canada sent a CC-177 Globemaster 3 aircraft, the Canadian version of the C-17, to help evacuate people from Louisiana. Dubbed Operation Unify, the CC-177 and Canadian Forces crew flew from Canadian Forces Base in Trenton, Ontario, to

Lakefront, Louisiana, to aid in the evacuation.

Source: <http://www.military.com/news/article/military-ready-as-gustav-hits-land.html?ESRC=topstories.RSS>

46. *September 1, San Diego Union Tribune* – (California) **Local group to aid in Gustav phone effort.** A local chapter of the nonprofit 211 organization, which offers telephone assistance to people in times of disaster, will be taking to the phones to help people affected by Hurricane Gustav. In anticipation of thousands of calls to the Gulf Coast 211 chapter, the San Diego, California, organization volunteered to help by answering the overflow, according to the chief executive officer of San Diego 211. San Diego 211 volunteers will use information on their computers to direct people in Louisiana to needed services such as emergency shelters, he said.
Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20080901-2017-bn1phonehelp.html>
47. *September 1, WDSU 6 Slidell* – (Louisiana) **911 service down in Slidell.** Hurricane Gustav has caused major outages in Slidell, Louisiana, according to Slidell's mayor, who said that Slidell's 911 service is down and he is unsure when it will be restored. He said that about two-thirds of Slidell has lost power. Charter Communications has reported damage to a major fiber line between Mandeville and Slidell, causing a loss of cable services in the western side of the parish.
Source: <http://www.wdsu.com/weather/17364135/detail.html#->
48. *August 29, Federal Computer Week* – (National) **DHS studies PDAs for first responders.** The Homeland Security Department (DHS) is studying a prototype software system that would allow first responders and law enforcement officers to receive live video and geospatial coordinates on their personal digital assistants (PDAs) while working in the field. Through a research project called RealEyes, DHS' Science and Technology Directorate will work with a federal law enforcement agency and the company that developed the software to test its operational effectiveness, according to DHS' privacy impact assessment (PIA) of the program, published in July. The technology already was successfully tested in the lab, according to DHS. DHS said law enforcement organizations do not have technology that shares live, streaming video. In addition to sending and receiving video and geospatial coordinates, the software is designed to let first responders and law enforcement officials see video from fixed or mobile cameras or from field command posts by using basic cellular technology. DHS said in its PIA that the PDAs will not store the images. The trial will test the technology on volunteers from the federal law enforcement agency participating in the study. However, the possibility of incidentally capturing images of non-volunteer persons in the area prompted the department to conduct the PIA. DHS said all the streamed images of either participants or bystanders will be destroyed after 24 hours.
Source: <http://www.fcw.com/online/news/153654-1.html>

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Information Technology

49. *September 2, SpamFighter* – (International) **Russian spammers involved in building new botnet for more attacks.** According to the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Spam Data Mine, the Russian-Georgian Cyber War reached a new height on the morning of August 17, 2008 when over 500 e-mails were received in just 90 minutes at the UAB. The university started receiving poorly crafted e-mails on August 15, 2008, and now they account for five percent of the total spam traffic. Moreover, the e-mails contain attractive headlines such as “Mikheil Saakashvili gay scam - news of the week” that lure victims into reading a phony BBC story on the Georgian President. The link provided in the e-mails takes victim to a Web server loaded with malicious content and it tries to compromise the user’s system. It seems that spammers are trying to build a botnet but the motive behind establishing this network is still unclear. It may be used for launching more attacks against computers of the Georgian government. The director of Product Management with Symantec Security Response said that the malevolent software is a new variant of Trojan.Blusod program, as reported by NetworkWorld. Earlier, spammers used this Trojan to load antivirus program on computers by making users believe that their system infected with virus and the program could clean the problem on charges.
- Source: <http://www.spamfighter.com/News-10882-Russian-Spammers-Involve-in-Building-New-Botnet-for-More-Attacks.htm>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

50. *September 2, Webwire* – (Texas) **AT&T offers free phones to Gustav evacuees.** AT&T Inc. announced Tuesday the availability of at least 2,000 GoPhone devices with \$15 in air time to residents who have been ordered to evacuate their homes due to Hurricane Gustav. The phones will be made available on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last to residents who live in any area that government has declared a mandatory evacuation area. The phones will be available at all company-owned AT&T retail locations in Houston and San Antonio, Texas, both cities seeing large numbers of incoming evacuees from Louisiana and far southeast Texas. AT&T is rushing extra shipments of GoPhones to the Houston and San Antonio stores, and they are expected to be available as early as Monday evening.
- Source: <http://www.webwire.com/ViewPressRel.asp?aId=73858>
51. *September 1, Princeton Daily Clarion* – (Indiana) **Insight cable, Internet, phone back on in most areas.** Contractors spent most of the day Monday repairing cable lines in Fort Branch, Indiana, that were damaged when a group of hunters shooting at doves

perched on the lines damaged fiber optic equipment, according to an Insight Communications spokesman. Insight cable television, high-speed Internet, and digital telephone service were back up and running in most areas around 6 p.m., he reported. Repair personnel were forced to splice together fiber optic lines the size of a human hair, as service came and went throughout the afternoon.

Source: <http://www.tristate-media.com/articles/2008/09/01/pdclarion/news/news1.txt>

52. *August 31, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Broadweave has been operating the fiber-optic network since July.** Early Saturday morning, the Mayor of Provo, Utah, and Broadweave Networks' chief executive signed final documents to close the \$40.6 million sale of the iProvo fiber-optic network. Broadweave started operating the network in July, but the final settlement was delayed as its investors reviewed the purchase agreement. Broadweave will provide wholesale access for Veracity and Nuvont and retail service to former Mstar customers. Provo borrowed \$39.5 million in 2004 to build the iProvo fiber-optic network to provide television, Internet and phone service to residents. The city planned to be the system provider, but state law restricted it to being a wholesale provider, leasing bandwidth to companies.

Source: http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_10348288

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Commercial Facilities Sector

53. *August 31, KRIS 6 Corpus Christi* – (Texas) **A bomb threat at a local Wal-Mart had many frightened.** Police have continued searching for a man that threw a molotov cocktail Saturday afternoon inside a Super Wal-Mart in the Westside of Corpus Christi, Texas. The bomb squad was called in to investigate a device with explosive liquids. Wal-Mart employees evacuated the building, and hundreds of customers were directed to wait outside until the bomb squad took control of the device around 6 p.m. Saturday. Officers believe the suspect is also responsible for throwing a molotov cocktail at La Palmera mall earlier this past week. "He walked in, threw the device over the top of an aisle, and hit a 19-year-old female in the head. Then, it landed on the ground and did not shatter," a Corpus Christi Police Department captain said.

Source: http://www.kristv.com/Global/story.asp?S=8928101&nav=menu192_2_6_11

54. *August 29, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **FBI outlines role during RNC.** The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) will play a big role in gathering intelligence and investigating any terroristic threats that may pop up during the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minnesota. The agency has set up an Intelligence Operations Center at an undisclosed location, where information on suspicious people or activity will be collected and immediately analyzed. The agents will have access to all FBI and local databases. The special agent in charge of the Minneapolis division of the FBI said the agency has put more resources in Minnesota than ever before "because the responsibility is substantial." He could not reveal numbers for security reasons. The FBI has also set up a Joint Operations Center, which would become a command center and be used only in the event of a crisis. The Secret Service also set up an information-gathering center, where about 100 people from federal, state, and local agencies, as well

as the private sector, will monitor the convention and events occurring outside.

Source:

<http://www.startribune.com/politics/27671734.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQUoaEyqyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc: Yyc:aUnciatkEP7DhUsX>

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

55. *September 1, CNN* – (Louisiana) **Concerns about New Orleans-area levee ease.**

Efforts to bolster a private New Orleans-area levee that had been in danger of failing because of Hurricane Gustav appeared to be working Monday night, the president of a parish said. Crews work to reinforce a levee on a canal in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, on Monday afternoon. While water came over the top of other levees along the Mississippi River, the barriers were holding against the battering waves that Gustav brought to southeastern Louisiana. The private levee near Braithwaite, about 20 miles down the Mississippi from New Orleans, was the focus of concern after several small cracks were reported. Water also had been coming over the top of the barrier. Sheriff's deputies, firefighters, jail inmates, and parish crews, backed up by a front-end loader, spent much of Monday afternoon piling dirt and sandbags in front of a bright blue floodgate that was leaking water. In the meantime, he said, the parish raised the levee two feet and planted grass on top of it to prevent erosion. Up to six feet of water spilled into an industrial park in the Upper 9th Ward of New Orleans late Monday morning, pouring through small gaps in the concrete flood walls before receding in the afternoon.

Source:

http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/weather/09/01/gustav.levees/index.html?eref=rss_us

56. *September 1, Los Angeles Times* – (Louisiana) **Hurricane Gustav batters Louisiana's southern coast.** The weakened Category 1 storm makes landfall, straining New Orleans' levees but offering hope of escape from devastation on the scale of Katrina. Hurricane Gustav rammed ashore against the depopulated southern coast of Louisiana this morning, weakened but still dangerous as it aimed west of New Orleans, where strained levees showed brief signs of overwash from high winds and volatile storm surges. Officials from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers confirmed that two large scrapped U.S. Navy vessels and a barge that had been tied up had come unmoored in the Industrial Canal. But New Orleans' mayor said later that the vessels remained pinned against a pier and had not yet begun to move freely. A spokeswoman said officials could not do anything about the vessels until the hurricane passed over the region. One of the barges which measures 75 by 500 feet long was partially sunk.

Source: <http://travel.latimes.com/articles/la-trw-gustav2-2008sep02>

57. *September 1, Indian Country Today* – (California) **Opponents adopt direct action techniques to achieve dams’ removal.** What is being called the biggest dam removal in U.S. history could take place on the Klamath River if a pending agreement is adopted between tribal and other stakeholders and PacifiCorp. “We may know on Sept. 30 what the exact agreement is,” said an outreach coordinator for the Klamath Riverkeeper. In the past, negotiators’ suggested deadlines for dam removal have been 2012 for the first dam, 2020 for the second, and so on, she said, noting that if the tribes were to be taxed for removal, costs “would also be an issue.” In addition, because less water would be diverted through the turbines, less energy could be generated and the dams’ operation “wouldn’t make money, so we think we’re close to a deal,” said the Klamath River campaign coordinator for the Karuk Tribe. Competing uses of the Klamath River came to a head in 2001, a dry year when maintaining fishery flows required under the Endangered Species Act left farmers water-short. Although the federal government restored the flows in 2002, massive salmon die-offs occurred, creating further dissent. Removing the dams may restore Chinook, Coho, and steelhead salmon by eliminating the barriers to their spawning grounds in the 263-mile river.
Source: <http://www.indiancountry.com/content.cfm?id=1096418084>

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